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HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

*WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM
AND
HISTORICAL LIBRARY*



Founded September 1965

Hobart Historical Society, Inc.

706 East 4th Street

Open by appointment call 942-4869

The Purposes of the
Hobart Historical Society, Inc. are

TO STUDY, PROMOTE INTEREST IN,
AND PRESERVE OUR LOCAL HERITAGE

The Hobart Historical Society, Inc. Building was originally the Hobart Public Library Building dedicated February 11, 1915. Funds and help had been received from the Carnegie Library Commission, the Hobart Township and the Gary Public Library. This building is a monument commemorating the efforts of the Women's Reading Club of Hobart.

To preserve this building the Hobart Historical Society purchased it from the Lake County Library Board in June, 1968.

Articles of Interest in the Museum

Pictures from the George Earle Art Gallery built on Main Street in 1858.

A map of Hobart by George Earle printed in Philadelphia by L. N. Rosenthals, Lithographers, dated 1859.

Panorama of Hobart in 1877 a Lithograph by Lott and Reuch of Chicago.

A collection of watercolor paintings of scenes in and around Hobart by Herbert Day.

A collection of historical articles exhibits in cases.

A complete millwrights collection of tools and articles.

Parlor furniture from the seventies and eighties.

Interesting handwoven rug.

Organ made by John Wood of Chicago.

Map of Lake County in 1875.

HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

1965 - 1970

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ANNIVERSARY DINNER

April 29, 1970

6:15 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

715 E. Fourth Street

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1970 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Mrs. Carl Pleak
VICE PRESIDENT: . Mr. Walter Isakson
SECRETARY: Mrs. Walter Isakson
TREASURER: Miss Helen Hopp
WAR MEMORIAL FUND: . Mrs. Laura Bracken

DIRECTORS

W. H. Thomas Donald Ballantyne
M. R. Carnes Mrs. Donald Ballantyne

Walter MacPherson

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"IN THE BEGINNING----JOIN"

"IN THE BEGINNING--1965-1970

HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

1965

**Organized: September 30, 1965
Temporary Chairman: Byron Findling*

**Meetings were held the second
Wednesday of each month in the
Community Room of Hobart Federal
Savings and Loan Association.*

1966

**Prepared an exhibit on Hobart history
for our part in the state Sesqui-
centennial Celebration in the Library
at Hobart's July Fourth celebration.
Took part in Historical Exhibit for
Sesquicentennial celebration at the
August Lake County Fair in cooperation
with other Historical Societies of
the County.*

1967

**Arranged a booth at the Jaycee's
Annual July Fourth Celebration and
Home Show, conducted a membership
drive.*

1968

**Purchased our building June 1968 from
Lake County Library System. Also
had booth at Home Show. Donald
Ballantyne, building chairman, started
repairs on the building.*

*BE A PART OF TOMORROW
BY CONTRIBUTING TODAY.*

REVIEW (Continued)

1969

*Took possession of the building in January. Renovation continued under the supervision of Mr. Ballantyne with help from the U. S. Marine Corp Reserves, 6th Engineers Battalion & many individuals. Mr. Simmons donated his labor to paint the main part of the building.

*Arranged a preview Exhibit for Annual July Fourth Celebration in the building.

*In February an inspection tour of the building was held.

*On October 12, at 3 p.m., the formal dedication ceremonies were held with the Marine Corp presenting the colors.

*On December 14 a pot-luck supper was held for friends of the Historical Society with many interesting stories of early history being related. A good time was had by all.

1970

*Annual Dinner, April 29, 1970

**Meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Historical Building at 8:00 p.m.

TO BE "IN" "IN THE BEGINNING" of our
new decade - PAY YOUR DUES "NOW" and
CONTRIBUTE TO THE BUILDING FUND

HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

April 29, 1970

THEME: "IN THE BEGINNING"

Master of Ceremonies

Anthony Cefali

6:15 Dinner Hour

Invocation

Rev. Allan Byrne

7:15 Special Music

Hobart Senior High Madrigals

7:30 Introduction of Guests and Special Friends of the
Society

Reviewing "The Beginning--Up to Now"

7:45 Guest Speaker: Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.
Member of the Hammond Historical Society

Topic: "THE BEGINNING OF LAKE COUNTY"

8:30 "BEGINNING A NEW DECADE."

Benediction

Rev. Byrne

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MENU

Swiss Steak
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans
Perfection Salad
Bread - Butter - Relish
Home Made Pie
Coffee or Tea

COMMITTEES

General Chairman: Mrs. Emil Aldrin
Publicity: Mrs. Carl Pleak
Tickets: Mrs. Emil Aldrin
Mr. W. H. Thomas
Miss Helen Hopp
Dinner Arrangements:
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ballantyne

IF YOU WISH TO SEE THIS "BEGINNING MATURE" - GIVE TO THE BUILDING FUND

PARTIAL LISTING OF COLLECTIONS

- 2 large exhibit cases given by
Rodney Cubberly
- 1 exhibit case given by Mrs. William
Vanderlaan of Crown Point
City pictures by Etta Killegrew
- A collection of account books and
special papers and notes of
George Earle given by Ray Kostbade
Also Indian Artifacts
- A framed Invitation "To the Fourth
of July Day on the Fifth"
Given by Jacob Labodie of Gary
- 2 Class pictures given by Etta Kisla
and Olive Wood
- Almost a complete collection of
Hobart High School Annuals
Given by Mrs. Frank Davis
- A large oil painting by Daisy
Meridith who painted in this
area about 1900-1915, given by
Mrs. Frank Davis.
- Collection of Clippings & pictures
of Hobart's Centennial in 1947
Given by Mrs. Jerome Keilman,
who worked at the Hobart Gazette
at the time.
- Old shoes by Laverne Manteuffel
- Mrs. Carl Pleak, Mr. and Mrs. Walter
Isakson and Mr. and Mrs. Donald
Ballantyne have contributed many
items and much work.

PARTIAL LISTING"(Continued)

1 large map of Lake County in 1875
Mr. Kenneth Halsted

1 early map of Hobart
Mrs. David Evans

Indian Artifacts by Robert Reichert

Miscellaneous Donors:

Miss Esther Lennertz

Miss Mildred Tabbert

And others

HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
CENTURY CLUB

American Association of University
Women

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ballantyne

Lee and Mable Blake

Emily E. Bracken

Stan and Elin Christianson

Mr. and Mrs. Verne E. Elliott

Mr. and Mrs. Gustaf Engstrom

John Fleck Family

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Findling

Gary National Bank, Hobart Branch

Miss Alta Halstead

Miss Bess M. Hayward

Mr. and Mrs. William Hebert

Hobart Republican Woman's Club

Hobart Woman's Club

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Isakson

Raymond and Doris Kostbade

Mr. William C. Kostbade

Mr. and Mrs. Carl N. Kjos

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mickritz

Helen Mitchell

Dr. Harry C. Parker

HOBART HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
CENTURY CLUB
(Continued)

Dr. W. H. Pike, Jr.
Mrs. Carl E. Pleak
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald V. Rees
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Rhoades
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Stafford
Calvin & Esther Scholler
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew F. Seling
Schultz Bros. Co.
Mrs. Annette B. Schlater
Mr. Harold E. Tabbert
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thomas
Lilburn J. Titus
Mr. and Mrs. Blair Truitt
Zeta Beta Chi Jr. Women's Club

. . . "AND STILL THERE IS ROOM FOR MORE"

In the Library

Histories, maps, genealogies, family histories and photographs.

Hobart was founded on 1847 when George Earle moved the Post Office from Liverpool to north on Deep River. In 1845 a dam was built on Deep River to be followed with a saw-mill and a grist mill. The plat for Hobart was recorded on May 3, 1849.

The town was located on the Chicago-New York stage coach route used by the pioneers and the Forty-Niners. The first school house was built in 1845 on Center Street. Hobart became a trading center for the farmers. In 1858 the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago was completed through Hobart. It was a busy town during the Civil War.

The first churches were the Augustana Lutheran, the Methodist, the Trinity Lutheran, the Unitarian and St. Bridget's Roman Catholic. The early Fraternal orders were the McLelland Masonic Lodge and the Odd Fellows.

In the 1879's Hobart was described as "having the air of a city." It had the finest hotel in northwest Indiana, four brick yards, four lumber yards, general stores, meat markets, doctors, drug stores, blacksmith shops, shoemakers and everything to supply the area.

Hobart became famous for its July 4th Celebrations. Among its first was that for Centennial of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1876. It had a Trotting Park with a baseball diamond in the center. Here the Cubs and the Sox played the Hobart Maroons. The G.A.R. frequently held its annual encampments in Hobart. It had Commons and a band stand south on Main Street.

The Nickel Plate R.R. was built through Hobart in 1882 and the E. J. and E. in 1888. The first bank was established in 1884. The first Town Board was organized in 1889. The Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1891. The school system had progressed and the first High School graduation was held in 1890.

The Hobart Water Works and Electric Plant was built in 1897 and continued oper-

ation until the early twenties when it was sold. The Hobart Public Library building was dedicated in 1915. The library continued in this building until a new and larger building was built on Main Street.

Hobart's first city government was organized in 1921. The Hobart High School Band was organized in 1925 and has become a national champion. In 1947 Hobart celebrated its centennial on July 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6th. In 1950 Hobart became a fourth class city.

During this time the city has built the Sewage Disposal Plant, has expanded Fire Department, torn down the old city hall and built a new one on Main Street at 4th.

The City of Hobart recognized the Sesqui-Centennial of the State of Indiana by participating in all the county activities. The Historical Society was organized in 1965, aided the celebration for the State in 1966 and purchased the building of the Hobart Public Library in June 1968.

Join the Hobart Historical Society, Inc.

The Hobart Historical Society, Inc. receives no tax refunds, has no endowments, special grants. It depends entirely on memberships and contributions.

Memberships:

Annual Membership

\$1.00 per year for over 65 years

\$2.00 per year for under 65 years

Sustaining Membership

\$25.00 per year

Contributing Membership

\$50.00 per year

Life Membership

\$100.00

War Memorial Fund

Gifts of \$100.00 or more for interest payments and retirement of loan. Donor's name will be engraved on a metal plate and mounted on board which will be exhibited in the Hobart Historical Society Building.